CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of treating a coronavirus infection, the method comprising administering to an individual an effective amount of IFN-α.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the individual has been exposed to a coronavirus, and the IFN-α is administered within 24 hours of exposure to the coronavirus.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the individual has been exposed to a coronavirus, and the IFN-α is administered within 48 hours of exposure to the coronavirus.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the individual has been exposed to a coronavirus, and the IFN-α is administered 72 hours to 35 days after exposure to the coronavirus.

5. A method of treating a coronavirus infection, the method comprising administering to an individual an effective amount of IFN-γ.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the individual has been exposed to a coronavirus, and the IFN-γ is administered within 24 hours of exposure to the coronavirus.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein the individual has been exposed to a coronavirus, and the IFN-γ is administered within 48 hours of exposure to the coronavirus.

8. The method of claim 5, wherein the individual has been exposed to a coronavirus, and the IFN-γ is administered 72 hours to 35 days after exposure to the coronavirus.

9. A method of treating a coronavirus infection, the method comprising administering to an individual an effective amount of IFN-γ and an effective amount of IFN-α.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the individual has been exposed to a coronavirus, and the IFN-γ and the IFN-α are administered within 24 hours of exposure to the coronavirus.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the individual has been exposed to a coronavirus, and the IFN-γ and the IFN-α are administered within 48 hours of exposure to the coronavirus.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein the individual has been exposed to a coronavirus, and the IFN-γ and the IFN-α are administered 72 hours to 35 days after exposure to the coronavirus.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein the IFN-α and the IFN-γ are administered subcutaneously.

14. A method of treating severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in an individual, the method comprising administering an effective amount of IFN-α to the individual

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the IFN-α is administered within 24 hours of the appearance of a symptom of SARS in the individual.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein the IFN-α is administered within 48 hours of the appearance of a symptom of SARS in the individual.

17. A method of treating severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in an individual, the method comprising administering an effective amount of IFN-γ to the individual

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the IFN-γ is administered within 24 hours of the appearance of a symptom of SARS in the individual.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein the IFN-γ is administered within 48 hours of the appearance of a symptom of SARS in the individual.

20. A method of treating severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in an individual, the method comprising administering an effective amount of IFN-α and an effective amount of IFN-γ to the individual.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the IFN-α and the IFN-γ are administered within 24 hours of the appearance of a symptom of SARS in the individual.

22. The method of claim 20, wherein the IFN-α and the IFN-γ are administered within 48 hours of the appearance of a symptom of SARS in the individual.

23. A method of reducing the risk that an individual will develop severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), the method comprising administering to the individual an effective amount of IFN-α.

24. A method of reducing the risk that an individual will develop severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), the method comprising administering to the individual an effective amount of IFN-γ.

25. A method of reducing the risk that an individual will develop severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), the method comprising administering to the individual an effective amount of IFN-α and an effective amount of IFN-γ.

26. The method of any one of claims 1, 5, 9, 14, 17, 20, and 23-25, further comprising administering an effective amount of a nucleotide analog or a nucleoside analog.

27. The method of any one of claims 1, 5, 9, 14, 17, 20, and 23-25, further comprising administering an effective amount of ribavirin.

28. The method of any one of claims 1-4, 9-13, 14-16, 20-23, and 25, wherein the IFN-α is a consensus interferon.